# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# WATER RESOURCES
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:93
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
SALINITY IN GROUND WATER
S. AJAYA KUMAR;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether large scale sand mining in the river beds has resulted in the sea water entering into the rivers and has caused serious structural in stability of several bridges;

(b) if so, whether this has resulted in the intrusion of salinity into the ground water;

(c) if so, whether the Government have conducted any study in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with affected areas identified, State-wise?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 93 FOR REPLY ON 24.02.2003 REGARDING SALINITY IN GROUND WATER.

No instance of seawater entering the river due to large-scale mining of sand in the river bed and resultant intrusion of salinity into the ground water has been reported so far. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has reported that they have not received any report, so far where entering of seawater into the river has caused serious structural instability of the bridges. A study undertaken by the Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) pursuant to a special leave petition in the Apex Court to assess the extent and likelihood of damage to ground water in the area around village Mayanur, Klithalai taluka, district Karur, Tamil Nadu in September, 2001 revealed that the sand mining in the Cauvery river has not caused any damage to the ground water reservoir. The area where the study was undertaken is more than 300 km away from the seacoast.